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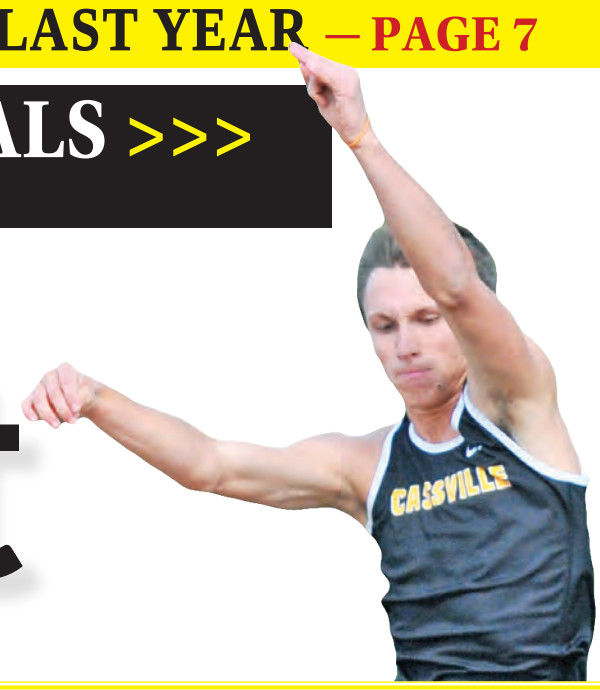
SALES TAX IN MAY INCHES AHEAD OF LAST YEAR — PAGE 7

CASSVILLE SPEEDS TO STATE MEDALS >>>
Track team records 3 All-State performances. — PAGE 3



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Sentencing delayed in Paschall murder trial

Paschall attorney seeking mental evaluation for man found guilty

BY KYLE TROUTMAN
editor@cassville-democrat.com

MURDER SENTENCING
Who: Christopher Paschall, 40, of Springdale, Ark.
What: Had his sentencing delayed after he was found guilty of six felony charges
Why: Pending a mental evaluation

A Springdale man found guilty of murdering two Barry County residents has had his sentencing delayed pending questions surrounding his mental competence.

Christopher Paschall, 40, of Springdale, Ark., was found guilty by a Newton County jury of first-degree murder, three counts of armed criminal action and a single count of parental kidnapping after slaying Casey Brace, 28, and her grandfather, Herbert Townsend, 76, in Washburn in 2015, then taking his daughter to his mother's home in Springdale.

Paschall faces life in prison without parole. Circuit Judge Jack Goodman ordered a mental health examination in December, and a report on that examination was filed on March 7. The defense request-

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SHELL KNOB LIBRARY
Who: Barry-Lawrence Regional Library District
What: The district is taking next steps to build a new library building, starting with hiring an architect
Where: Shell Knob Branch

Architect hired for Shell Knob library

District begins project with $83,744

BY JULIA KILMER
reporter@cassville-democrat.com

The Barry-Lawrence Regional Library District hired the architectural firm, Paragon, to assist them in the process of conceptualizing and erecting a new building for its Shell Knob patrons.

"We were given three acres of property across from where the current branch is between The Red Barn and storage units," said Gina Milburn, district director. "We have been looking to see if it would be possible to find land on the main strip where we could move the library."

The library is currently located inside the Bridgeview Plaza in Shell Knob, but that location presents some challenges, Milburn said.

"The library is split in two levels, but we can only use the top level, so the branch is pretty cramped in about 1,500 square feet," she said. "So it would be better if we can build a bigger library for the community. Not only can we not use that lower level except for meetings or storage space, but it's not handicap accessible."

Milburn and Library District Administrative Assistant Joyce Frazier met with architectural firms on March 26 at the Shell Knob Branch Library. The next month, qualification packets were received and reviewed from architectural firms Dake Wells Architecture; Sapp Design Architects; Ireland Architects; Parragon Architecture; and Buxton Kubik

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Local waterslide celebrates 40th year

Jerry Beebe, of Beebe's Roaring River Waterslide, takes a break preparing the slide for the season on Tuesday, as he has done every year for the past 25 years, to visit with his granddaughter Marlee Beebe, 5. The twisty 300-plus foot waterside opened with a splash on Saturday. The family-owned attraction, which is located on the left side of Highway 112 just one-quarter mile from the entrance of Roaring River State Park, has been in the family for 25 years. Previous to their ownership, the slide operated for 15 years (beginning in 1978) under the name of Laverne and Shirley's Mountain — making 2018 its 40th year of offering local and area residents summer family fun. Hours are 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. every day of the week, and concessions and a picnic area in a picturesque setting are available. Julia Kilmer/reporter@cassville-democrat.com

Sound, lights for Purdy performing arts center chosen

School board makes storm shelter changes, buys iPads

BY MURRAY BISHOFF
Cassville Democrat

PURDY SCHOOL BOARD
What: Makes adjustments in storm shelter construction
Main action: Selects contractor for lighting, sound system
Debate: Wrestles over responsibility for drain work

Purdy school board members reviewed progress on the new storm shelter and performing arts center as well as purchased new technology equipment for lower grades during their May meeting.

As interior work takes center stage in the new performing arts center, Superintendent Steven Chancellor reviewed how the district separated the audio-visual and lightning components from the general contract to

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Cassville Aquatic Center now open for summer swimming

Center open now through Aug. 12

BY JULIA KILMER
reporter@cassville-democrat.com

SWIMMING POOL
Who: Cassville Aquatic Center, area residents
What: Opened for the summer
When: Opened Saturday, 1 to 8 p.m.
Where: Cassville Aquatic Center, Sale Barn Road

With school officially out for summer across the county, children can do one of the summer activities they love best — swimming.

The Cassville Aquatic Center, located on Sale Barn Road, opened with a splash on Saturday, to keep local families cool and entertained all summer long, through Aug. 12.

Summer hours will be Sunday through Friday, 1-6 p.m.; and Saturday, 1-8 p.m., with the popular family swim offered from 6-8 p.m. Saturday for only $5 for the family.

General admission if not a YMCA member is $5; members are free.

Lap swimming will be available Monday through Friday, noon to 1 p.m. Cost is $2 if not a YMCA member; free if a member.

Swim lessons will be offered again this year in two-week periods, beginning June 4-14 at 6 p.m.; June 18-28 at noon or 6 p.m.; and July 9-19 at noon or 6 p.m.

Lessons are $25 if participants are a YMCA member; $27 if parents qualify for free or reduced lunches; and if not a member, cost ranges from $55-$70, depending on tier.

Lessons run Monday through Thursday. Children ages six months through age 12 are eligible.

For more information about the pool, swimming lessons, or any other information, call or visit the Cassville YMCA at 417-846-1535, or go online to register for classes at: www.orymca.org.

In addition to swimming at the Aquatic Center, families can enjoy the surrounding park, sporting activities, playground and Greenway Trail for walking and biking.

Coby Johnston, 10, of Exeter, looks at the pool longingly from the side of the fence, which opened Saturday, while keeping an eye on his little niece, Caroline Clover Martin, 1, who is playing in the dirt. Clover is the daughter of Jo Porter and Michael Martin. Johnston said he plans to spend every day he can at the pool this summer. Contributed photo

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